

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

[0046] A data port operates to support symmetric PCI Express-type data transfers when in a first mode of operation. When in a second mode of operation, at least a portion of the data port connections are used to support an asymmetric PCI Express-type data transfer. The asymmetric data transfer is accommodated by supporting, with respect to the asymmetric data port, partial data lanes, thereby reducing the number of data channels implemented in a direction of the lower data rate transfer.